



CIRCUIT COURT  
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

GISELA CARDONNE ELY  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

June 15, 2017

DADE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
73 WEST FLAGLER STREET  
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33130

Hon. Rick Scott, Governor  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Governor Scott:

Please accept my resignation as Circuit Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, effective midnight, July 31, 2017. My service, as County and Circuit Court Judge since 1982, has been the greatest honor of my life.

I want to thank the Honorable Bob Graham for appointing me to County Court, the people's Court. He showed tremendous confidence in me and his trust changed my life. I also thank the Honorable Bob Martinez, who elevated me to the Circuit Court from which I now proudly retire.

Additionally, I want to thank the hundreds of persons who serve together with judges to achieve our mission: "To protect rights and liberties, uphold and interpret the law, and provide for the peaceful resolution of disputes."

Our courtrooms have a motto behind each judge's chair: We Who Labor Here Seek Only Truth-- we all strive to make the statement a reality each and every day. I hope that I have contributed to that endeavor.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

*Gisela Cardonne Ely*  
Gisela Cardonne Ely

Cc: Hon. Jorge Labarga, Chief Justice  
Hon. Bertila Soto, Chief Judge  
Hon. Bob Graham  
Hon. Bob Martinez

**Gisela Cardonne Ely**  
**73 W. Flagler St. #1500**  
**Miami, Florida 33130**  
**Gcardonne@jud11.flcourts.org**

**State of Florida 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit**

**1986 to present**

Trial Court Judge, 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Miami-Dade County,  
fourth largest court in the United States

General Jurisdiction Division, 1993 to present

Criminal and Juvenile Divisions (Associate Administrative Judge), 1988-1993  
County Court, 1982 and 1986-1988

**City of Miami Law Department**

**1983-1986**

Appellate attorney in State and Federal Courts;

Head of Litigation Division, municipal law

Deputy, Assistant City Attorney

Private practice: commercial litigation; personal injury

**1976-1982**

**Professional Committees**

Chair, Florida Conference of Circuit Judges, 1997-1998

Executive Committee, Florida Conference of Circuit Judges, 1991-2001

Education Committee, Conference Circuit Judges, 1988 to present

World Bank Rule of Law Project in Ecuador, 1999-2001

Court Interpreting Certification Program, 2007-2010

Court Accessibility Initiative, 2007

Seniority and Rotation 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Committee, 2001-2002

Joint Committee Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar and Conference of Circuit  
Judges on Professional Conduct, 2001

Referee, Florida Bar Disciplinary Trials of Attorney Misconduct, 1998 to present

Trial Panel, Judicial Qualifications Commission, 1998

Judicial Management Council, Florida Conference of Circuit Judges, 1997-1998

**Education**

Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, Barry University, 1972

Full National Merit Scholarship

Master of Arts, Barry University 1979

Juris Doctor, University of Miami School of Law, 1976

Partial scholarship

**Personal**

Spoken on numerous panels on Electronically Stored Information

Sedona Conference; PREX Institute; EDI, Electronic Discovery Institute

Bilingual in English and Spanish, and proficient in French